

**ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes**

**Administration Building
Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

President Jude Makulec called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Denise Pearson, Ms. Kimberly Haley, Ms. Tiana McCall (arr. 5:35 p.m.), Mr. David Seigel

Absent: None

Motion by Ms. Pearson seconded by Mr. Rollins that the Board **hold** an executive session to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; student disciplinary cases; the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; collective bargaining matters; security procedures, school building safety and security; the purchase, sale or lease of real property; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2(c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Approved: 6-0-1

The Board was in executive session from 5:01 p.m. to 6:57 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – President Jude Makulec called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:10 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Denise Pearson, Ms. Kimberly Haley, Ms. McCall, Mr. David Seigel
Absent: None
Mrs. Makulec thanked Cathy Bayer-Eberle who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, and YouTube Live. Mr. Rollins welcomed Superintendent’s Student Advisory Representative Jessica Perez-Furman from Auburn High School.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Recitation of Mission Statement: The Mission of Rockford Public School is to collaboratively engage all students in a first-class education for a changing world.
 2. Recognitions
 - A. Recognitions – Earl Dotson, Jr.
The following students and staff were recognized for their achievements.
 - The City of Rockford celebrated Auburn High School sophomore Kaila Anderson in January as the City of Rockford’s new Youth Poet. The youth poet serves in this role for one year and is tasked with promoting literacy and literature among residents of all ages.
 - Auburn High School’s Kristina Puzin was selected to participate in the Honors Chorus at the Illinois Music Education Association All-State Choir Festival! Kristina is a junior at Auburn. Kristina spent time earlier this month in Peoria rehearsing with some of the best high school singers in the state. As a participant of the Honors Chorus, Kristina automatically qualifies for a talent scholarship at numerous schools, including a \$4,000 scholarship from Millikin University.
 - East High School sophomore Michaela Jones represented Rockford Public Schools and East High School in January at the state Special Olympics snowshoeing competition in Galena! Michaela won a gold medal in the 50-meter race in December to secure her spot in the State games. Michaela is also a cheerleader for the E-Rabs JV football team and basketball team and is on Gigi’s Playhouse Cheer Gems.
 - The Illinois State Board of Education will recognize two RPS 205 staff members at their annual awards banquet in April, the 2023 Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year awards. Wendy Jasinski is a paraprofessional at Lathrop Elementary School. She will receive an Award of Special Recognition in the Educational Support Personnel category. Dawn Bean is a nurse at Lathrop Elementary School. She will receive an Award of

Meritorious Service in the Educational Support Personnel category. Lathrop Principal Daniela Boer said both staff members go beyond their regular duties to help and support Lathrop students and staff.

- Mrs. Makulec added a recognition, reading a poem of Black History Month by student Tykerria Dachelet, a seventh grade student at Lincoln Middle School, who won the Creative Writing Contest.

3. Petitions & Communications

Mrs. Makulec read the guidelines.

- Terry Gano spoke of struggling readers and in opposition to the money and effort being spent on the International Baccalaureate Program.

4. *Consent Agenda – Performance and Monitoring Committee

- A. Payroll
- B. Accounts Payable
- C. Purchase Orders
- D. Construction Pay Request Log
- E. RPS Managed Work Change Order
- F. ESSER – RPS Managed Work Change Order
- G. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – January 2023 – Jamie Murray, Executive Director of Finance
- H. Financial Results: January 2023 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
- I. ~~RFP23-24 Substitute Management~~ – pulled by Ms. Haley
- J. IFB 23-37 Security Vestibules at Flinn, Guilford, Lincoln, Nashold & Summerdale Schools

5. *Consent Items – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 02-14-23
- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. Freedom of Information Log

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent items not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Ms. McCall seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** Consent item pulled 4I, RFP 23-41 Substitute Management.

Administration was asked about the RFP (Request for Proposal) process. Mr. Youngblood, Purchasing Director, explained the process and scoring system. Criteria included financial proposal, management and operations, relevant experiences, references and certifications, and start/up transition plan. Mr. Zediker, Chief Human Resources Officer, provided the history of using an outside vendor. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

6. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Kristina Miller as 12 Month Director of Accountability assigned to the Administration Building
- B. ~~Resolution Authorizing Dismissal of Probationary Teachers~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- C. Resolution Authorizing Dismissal of 4th Year Probationary Teacher
- D. Resolution Authorizing Dismissal of Non-Tenured Administrators
- E. ~~Resolution to Terminate Probationary Teacher and Authorize Appointment of Hearing Office and Schedule Hearings Dulce Martin~~ – Pulled by Administration
- F. HR Organization Report & Addendum

7. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals and Expulsions

- A. H0058X-23 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year through the second trimester of the 2023-2024 school year.
- B. H0059X-23 – expelled for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year through the entire 2023-2024 school year.
- C. H0060X-23 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year through the entire 2023-2024 school year, which can be changed to a Zone EIA upon successful completion of the ReFresh Program.
- D. P0108X-23 – expelled for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year through the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year.

8. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs

- A. B0011-23
- B. B0012-23
- C. H0054-23
- D. H0055-23
- E. H0056-23
- F. H0057-23
- G. H0061-23
- H. P0107-23
- I. P0109-23
- J. T0010-23

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** Closed Session Consent items not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Closed Session Consent items pulled, 6B, Resolution Authorizing Dismissal of Probationary Teachers

Yeas: Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Ms. Haley, Ms. Stanford, Mr. Rollins, Ms. McCall

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Approved: 6-0-1

9. Superintendent's Update

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Superintendent's Student Advisory Council student Jessica Perez-Furman. Jessica has been a student in RPS205 from Early Childhood to a senior at Auburn High School. She spoke of being grateful for the opportunity to attend all three meetings and watching the Board members advocate for the schools and students. She also applied and was appointed to the Illinois State Board of Education Student Advisory Council. The Council is a group of twenty-five students from the State chosen to provide student perspectives with educational concerns affecting various regions differently. Jessica spoke of how she and the other members meet, and the work they do on their subcommittee. She spoke of how her work impacts her school, zone, District, and the entire State. She spoke of her appreciation for the Board taking initiative to be involved in the District they represent.

10. Board Member Comments

- Mr. Seigel thanked the public speaker for coming and staying engaged through the entire meeting. He also spoke of the opportunity to hear from students

11. Action Steps include:

There were no action items.

Mrs. Makulec stated Transform Rockford will be hosting an event for Board candidates from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on March 1, 2023. All seven school board seats are open, and she stated the importance of listening to all the candidates.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Pearson second by Mr. Seigel to **adjourn**.

Adjournment: 7:47 p.m.

Approved:

President:

Secretary: